

REMARKS

In order to be responsive to the election or restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action, applicants hereby elect the claims of Invention I, specie I, that is, claims 1-6, 8-13, 17-20, 23, 25-27, 29 and 30. It is noted that claims 1 and 26 are believed to be generic such that claims 1-28 may remain for consideration upon the allowance of the generic claims.

This election is made with traverse for the following reasons: The key aspects of claims 29-30 though in method form, are similar to the key aspects of claims 1-28. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-30, though different in scope, are nonetheless sufficiently similar to merit examination in the same application, as they share dominant elements. Examination of all claims 1-30 in the same application would not pose a serious burden under M.P.E.P. § 803 because there is commonality of dominant elements between the claims of Inventions I and II. In a balance of the equities, the burden and cost to applicants of prosecuting separate applications to inventions having common dominant elements appears to outweigh the burden on the Examiner to search and examine the present application as a unitary invention. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the election or restriction requirement be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, applicants believe that claims 1-30 are all allowable and the same is respectfully requested. If any

impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Response, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to initiate the same.

Please debit any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0836.

Dated this 29 day of March, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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